Sea-going lighters at the Alleppey Port.

576. *MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of sea-going lighters now available for loading and landing at the Port of Alleppey :

(*b*) the number available during each of the past ten years ; and

(*c*) the number of lighters lost or damaged ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) 23.

(*b*) 30 in 1099
32 in 1100
34 in 1101
44 in 1102
49 in 1103
52 in 1104
58 in 1105
58 in 1106
51 in 1107
43 in 1108

(*c*) 18.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : With reference to the answer to part (*c*), may I know from the member the cause for the loss and damages of the sea-going lighters ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : The causes are due to want of proper safety basins. Arrangements are being made for the construction of safety basin.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : May I know from the member whether the Government are aware of the recommendation of the Travancore Chamber of Commerce to construct a boat basin to offer safety for the anchorage at the Port ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes. Arrangements have already been made for the construction of a boat basin.

The Port at Alleppey.

577. *MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : Are the Government aware that the British India, the Asiatic and the Scindia Steam Navigation Companies have declared the port of Alleppey closed during the monsoon, so far as their steamers are concerned ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : May I know from the member the probable loss to Government in the shape of landing and shipping fees on account of this ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : May I know whether the customs revenue at the Port of Alleppey has become decreased on account of this ?

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